## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

- (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer of generation n comprising:
- a central core § of valence m;
- optionally, generation chains branching around the core;
- an intermediate chain at the end of each generation chain that is present, or at the end of each bond around the core, where appropriate; and
- a terminal group at the end of each intermediate chain, wherein said terminal group is represented by the formula:

$$-(A1)<[A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]_2$$
 (T)

wherein

-A1< represents the radical -CR< or -Heteroatom<;

the radicals A2, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical –Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

X represents a radical –alkyl, -Aryl, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1; n represents an integer from 0 to 12; and

- < represents two bonds situated on A1.
- 55. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, having a structure of the DAB, PAMAM or PMMH type.
- 56. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein A1 represents the radical –CH< or –N<.
- 57. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein A2 represents –Me-.
- 58. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the central core § is selected from the following groups:

59. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the central core § has the formula:

- 60. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein m represents an integer from 1 to 8.
- 61. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein m is selected from 3, 4 and 6.
- 62. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein n is from 0 to 3.
- 63. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains are selected from linear and branched hydrocarbon chains having from 1 to 12 chain members and optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, a group Aryl, Heteroaryl, >C=O, and >C=NR, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

64. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains, which are identical or different, are represented by the formula:

$$-A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))$$
 (C1)

wherein:

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, or a radical -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, Selenium or Tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

N represents a nitrogen atom; and

P represents a phosphorus atom; and

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical –Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl

- 65. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 64, wherein in formula C1 A represents an oxygen atom.
- 66. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 64, wherein B represents an optionally substituted phenyl radical.
- 67. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymers according to claim 64, wherein D represents an oxygen a hydrogen atom.
- 68. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 64, wherein E represents a radical –Alkyl.
- 69. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 64, wherein G represents a sulfur atom.
- 70. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains are represented by the formula:

$$-A'-(C=O)-N(R)-B'-N<$$
 (C1')

wherein

A' and B' each independently of the other represents a radical -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl; and

R and R' have the meanings defined in claim 54

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical –Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

- 71. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein A' and B' each independently of the other represents a radical –Alkyl-.
- 72. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains are represented by the formula:

wherein

A" represents a radical -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein R and R' have the meanings defined in claim 54, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical —Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

- 73. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 72, wherein A" represents an optionally substituted radical –Alkyl-.
- 74. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the intermediate chains are selected from linear and branched hydrocarbon chains having from 1 to 12 chain members and optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a

heteroatom, a group Aryl, Heteroaryl, >C=O, and >C=NR, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein R and R' have the meanings defined in claim 54, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical —Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

75. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the intermediate chains are represented by formula:

wherein

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents a radical -Aryl-, -C(=O), -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

L represents a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members and optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein R and R' have the meanings defined in claim 54, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical —Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

- 76. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 75, wherein J represents an oxygen atom.
- 77. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 75, wherein K represents an optionally substituted –Phenyl- radical.
- 78. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 75, wherein L represents a radical  $-(Alk)_a$  or the radical  $-C(D)=N-N(E)-(Alk)_a$ -.
- 79. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the intermediate chains are represented by formula

$$-A'-(C=O)-N(R)-B'-$$
 (C2')

wherein A' and B' each independently of the other represents a radical –Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or –Alkynyl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from –Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and –Aralkyl; and

R and R' have the meanings defined in claim 54, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical – Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

80. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the intermediate chains are represented by formula

wherein

A" represents a radical -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl; and

R and R' have the meanings defined in claim 54, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

- 81. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein M<sup>+</sup> represents a cation of an element of group IA, IIA, IIB or IIIA of the periodic table or a cation of a nitrogen-containing base.
- 82. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein M is selected from the atoms sodium and potassium.
- 83. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains are identical.
- 84. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains, which may be identical or different, are represented by the formula (C1) or (C2):

-A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G)) (C1)

<u>-J-K-L-</u> (C2)

wherein:

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, or a radical -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, Selenium or Tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

L represents a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members and optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical –Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

wherein in formulae (C1) and (C2), J and K are equal to A and B, respectively.

85. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, which is represented by the following formula (I):

 $-\{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<\}^n[J-K-(Alk)_a-N<[A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]_2]_2\}_m$  (I-1i) in which:

§, A, B, C, D, E, G, N, P, J, K, X, A2, m, and n have the meanings defined above,

§ represents a central core;

 $\{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<\}^n$  represents generation chains;

J-K-(Alk)<sub>a</sub>- represents an intermediate chain';

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, or a radical -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, Selenium or Tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical —Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

X represents a radical –alkyl, -Aryl, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,
the radicals A2, which are identical or different, each independently of the
other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having
from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected
from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more
substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl,
and -Aralkyl;

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1; n represents an integer from 0 to 12;

{}<sup>n</sup> denotes the branched structure of the generation n chains of said dendritic polymer, and

a represents 0 or 1.

86. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, which is represented by the following formula (I-1ii):

§, A, B, C, D, E, G, N, P, J, K, X, A2, m, and n have the meanings defined above,

§ represents a central core;

 $\{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<\}^n$  represents generation chains;

J-K-C(D)=N-N(E)-(Alk)<sub>a</sub>- represents and intermediate chain;

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, or a radical -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, Selenium or Tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

X represents a radical –alkyl, -Aryl, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

the radicals A2, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1;

n represents an integer from 0 to 12;

{}<sup>n</sup> denotes the branched structure of the generation n chains of said dendritic polymer, and
\_\_\_\_\_a represents 0 or 1.

87. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, which is represented by the following formula (I-2):

 $[[\S - \{\{A' - (C = O) - N(R) - B' - N < \}^n [A2 - P(=O)(OX)_2]_2]_2\}_m$  (I-2)]]

 $\S-\{\{A'-(C=O)-N(R)-B'-N<\}^n [A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]_2\}_m (I-2)$ 

in which:

§ represents a central core;

§, A', B', C, N, P, X, A2, m, and n have the meanings defined above

{A'-(C=O)-N(R)-B'-N<}<sup>n</sup> represents intermediate chains;

A' and B' each independently of the other represents a radical –Alkyl, 
Alkenyl, or –Alkynyl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more

substituents selected from –Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl,

and –Aralkyl;

C represents a carbon atom,

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

X represents a radical –alkyl, -Aryl, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

the radicals A2, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1;

n represents an integer from 0 to 12; and

{}<sup>n</sup> denotes the branched structure of the generation n chains of said dendritic polymer.

88. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, which is represented by the following formula (I-3):

 $[[\S-\{\{A''-N<\}^n [A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]_2]_2\}_m$ 

(I-3)]]

 $\S-\{\{A''-N<\}^n [A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]_2\}_m$  (I-3)

in which:

§, A", N, P, X, A2, m, and n have the meanings defined in above

§ represents a central core;

{A"-N<}<sup>n</sup> represents intermediate chains;

A" represents a radical -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

X represents a radical -alkyl, -Aryl, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

the radicals A2, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1;

n represents an integer from 0 to 12;

and {}<sup>n</sup> denotes the branched structure of the generation n chains of said dendritic polymer.

- 89. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 54, comprising:
- (i) reacting the corresponding dendritic polymer having a terminal function -CHO, -CH=NR, -NH<sub>2</sub> or -P(=G)Cl<sub>2</sub>

with a corresponding compound having one or two functionalities -PO<sub>3</sub>X<sub>2</sub>;

- (ii) optionally followed, when X represents H or M, by a step which comprises converting the dendritic polymer obtained in (i) having a -PO<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub> termination into the corresponding dendritic polymer having an -A1<[A2-P(=O)(OH)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> termination,
- (iii) optionally followed, when X represents M, by a step which comprises converting the dendritic polymer obtained in (ii) having an -A1<[A2-P(=O)(OH)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> termination into the salt of the corresponding dendritic polymer having an -A1<[A2-P(=O)(OM)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> termination.
- 90. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 89, wherein, when the dendritic polymer according to the invention is represented by the formula (I-1i)

 $-\{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<\}^n[J-K-(Alk)_a-N<[A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]_2\}_m$  (I-1i) in which , A, B, C, D, E, G, N, P, J, K, A2, Alk, X, a, m, n, and < have the meanings defined above,

step (i) comprises reacting with the corresponding dendritic polymer of the same generation n of the formula

$$\S-\{\{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G)) (II-1i) wherein Y represents -CI; a compound of formula H-J-K-(Alk)<sub>a</sub>-N<[A2-P(=O)(OX)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (III).$$

91. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 90, wherein the reaction is carried out in solution in a polar aprotic solvent, in the presence of an organic or inorganic base, at a temperature of from -80°C to 100°C.

- 92. (Cancelled)
- 93. (Cancelled)
- 94. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 89, wherein, when the dendritic polymer according to the invention is represented by formula (I-1ii)

$$-\{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<\}^n$$
 [J-K-C(D)=N-N(E)-(Alk)a-CH<[A2-P(=O)(OX)2]2]2 $\}_m$  (I-1ii)

in which:

§, A, B, C, D, E, G, N, P, J, K, L, X, A2, m, n, and a have the meanings defined above,

step (i) comprises reacting with the corresponding dendritic polymer of formula

$$-{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<}^n-[J-K-L']_2}_m$$
 (II-1ii)

wherein L' represents a radical -CHO;

a compound of formula 
$$(Alk')_a$$
-CH- $[A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]$  (VI)

wherein Alk' corresponding to Alk defined above in formula (I-1ii) represents a radical Alkenyl, and X has the meaning defined above, in the presence of a compound of formula

$$H_3C-NH-NH_2$$
 (VII).

95. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 94, wherein the reaction is carried out in a polar aprotic solvent medium, by addition of the compounds (VI) and (VII) to the dendritic polymer (II-1ii) at a temperature of from -80°C to 100°C.

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- 96. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 89, wherein step (ii) is carried out:
  - by the action of a trimethylsilane halide,
- followed by the action of anhydrous MeOH, which is added to the reaction mixture.
- 97. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 96, wherein the procedure is carried out in a polar aprotic organic solvent by addition of the trimethylsilane halide while keeping the reaction mixture at a temperature of from -80°C to 50°C.
- 98. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 89, wherein in step (iii) a salt of a compound according to the invention is obtained starting from a compound according to the invention having a terminal group in which X represents a hydrogen atom.
- 99. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 98, wherein the procedure is carried out in solution, in a suitable polar protic or aprotic solvent, in the presence of an organic or inorganic base, depending on the salt that is desired.
  - 100. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A compound of formula (III):  $H-J-K-(Alk)_a-N<[A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]_2 \qquad \qquad (III)$  in which

X represents a radical –Alkyl,  $\underline{-C(=O)}$ , -Aryl, H or M<sup>+</sup>, wherein M<sup>+</sup> is a cation; J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

the radicals A2, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, preferably nitrogen, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

-Alk- represents an alkyl radical; and a represents 0 or 1.

101. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a compound of formula (III) according to claim 100, comprising the following step:

H-J-K-(Alk)<sub>a</sub>-NH<sub>2</sub> (VIII) + H-A2'-(C=O)H (V) + H-P(=O)(OX)<sub>2</sub> (IV)   

$$\rightarrow$$
 H-J-K-(Alk)<sub>a</sub>-N<[A2-PO<sub>3</sub>X<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (III)

wherein, in formula (V), -A2'- is a radical corresponding to A2.

102. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 101, wherein the procedure is carried out by addition of the compounds (VIII) and (IV), and of the compound (V), at a temperature of from –5 to 25°C.

- 103. (Withdrawn) A method for treating or being in contact with surfaces comprising using a dendritic polymer according to claim 54.
- 104. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 103, wherein said surfaces are metal, silica-based or oxide-based.
- 105. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 103, wherein said dendritic polymer is used as an additive in a composition that is to be in contact with or to treat said surface.
- 106. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 103, wherein said dendritic polymer is used as an anti-corrosive agent, a lubricating agent, a scale preventer or as a flame retardant.
- 107. (New) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 89, wherein, when -A1< is N<, step (i) comprises reacting with the corresponding dendritic polymer of the same generation n of the formula

$$-{A'-(C=O)-N(R)-B'-NH_2}^n}_m$$
 (II-2)

or

$$\{-A''-NH_2\}^n\}_m$$
 (II-3)

a compound of formula (III)

$$H-J-K-(Alk)_a-N<[A2-P(=O)(OX)_2]_2$$
 (III).

where §, A', A", B', X, R, m, and n are as defined in claims 54, 70 or 72.